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Application No.: 10/784,860

Case No.: 58065US008

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3 and 5 to 17 are pending. Claims 8 to 17 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 2, 4 and 8-17 are canceled. Claims 1 and 5 are hereby amended.

§ 112 Rejections35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

Claim 1 and its dependents were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. The Office Action states in part:

The claim language "dielectric film has been etched to a controlled thickness of less than about 20µm (or 10 µm)....." Is vague and indefinite, as it is unclear whether the limitation includes zero thickness?

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 5 to include the limitation that the controlled thickness is greater than 0. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection has been overcome.

In addition to the foregoing arguments, Applicant(s) submit that a dependent claim should be considered allowable when its parent claim is allowed. *In re McCarn*, 101 USPQ 411 (CCPA 1954). Accordingly, provided the independent claims are allowed, all claims depending therefrom should also be allowed.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Examination and reconsideration of the claims are requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant(s)' attorney if the Examiner believes any remaining questions or issues could be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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